



## **Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, March 13, 2017 - 6:00 PM Clarendon School District III- Board Room**

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### **Those in attendance:**

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.  
Councilman Billy G. Richardson  
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson  
Councilman Benton Blakely  
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

**Absent:** Councilman AC English

**Press in attendance:** Jim Hilley – The Item

### **Others in attendance included:**

Lynden Anthony  
Dr. Connie Dennis

Joe Witt  
Michael Kozlarek

Jennifer Powell  
Norma Reardon  
And other Clarendon County Residents

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. Councilman Blakely led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

### **I. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Stewart asked for an approval of the agenda.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Agenda for March 13, 2017.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on February 13, 2017.

### **III. Proclamation**

Chairman Stewart read a Proclamation to declare May 15, 2017 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day and he asked what was the pleasure of Council.

On Motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Proclamation declaring May 15, 2017 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day.

### **IV. Ordinance 2017-01**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with Ordinance 2017-01, an Ordinance requesting a General Obligation Bond in an amount not to exceed \$650,000. He stated that the cost to construct the building for DSS, the Coroner Office, and Probation and Parole Office is more than anticipated. He concluded that this facility would give the county a designated Coroner Office with a morgue, a dedicated Probation and Parole Office as well as an updated Department of Social Services building.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2017-01, an Ordinance authorizing a General Obligation Bond not to exceed \$650,000 to be used to fund one or more Capital Projects, including the Construction of a Department of Social Services Building.

## **V. Executive Session**

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter in the Assessor's Office.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter in the Assessor's Office.

The Executive Session began at 6:10 pm.

## **VI. Open Session**

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

On motion by Councilman Richardson, and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

The Executive Session ended at 6:43 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session, Council discussed the position of County Assessor and Council would like to give Administrator Epperson authority to negotiate with the current Deputy Assessor to move up to the Assessor's position. He asked what was the pleasure of Council.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to give Administrator Epperson authority to negotiate with Deputy Assessor, Gail McCormack, on moving up to the Assessor's position.

## **VI. Financial Report**

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating that there was no increase in tax collections for February and the County was in the same position as it was this time last year. He continued by stating that the General Fund had Expenditures of \$1,657,584 and Revenue figures were not available for the month ending February 28, 2017.

Mr. Anthony further stated that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$514,223 and Operating Expenses of \$343,341 as of February 28, 2017. He stated that after depreciation, Bond interest expense, transfers, interest income, and Grant Revenue, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility income of \$72,658.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Weldon Auditorium total Revenue for the month of February 2017 was \$27,922, and total Expenses of \$174,638. He stated that after transfers from the General Fund, Hospitality Tax and Accommodations Fund in the amount of \$125,000, the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of February with a deficit of \$21,716.

Mr. Anthony further stated that the C-Fund Program for the month of February 2017 had a Cash Balance of \$1,523,840 of which \$773,644 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$750,196 as of the end of February 2017.

## VII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- **USDA Phase II** – easement sketches have been completed, and right of way acquisition is continuing.
- **DSS - Administration Complex** – Renovations on the existing facility have begun. Work on the new addition will begin once permitting is completed.
- **FEMA** – still awaiting reimbursement for the 2015 Flood. We hope to receive funding in 2017. Estimated to receive \$452,000 plus the state match.
- **Wyboo Fire Station** – we received approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to place the new fire station on the 3.10-acre tract across from Lanes Shopping Center on Highway 260. Santee Cooper would be considering our request for a gratis lease for the property at its March meeting on March 20.

## VIII. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that the County is very proud of Jonathan Jones for being selected at the State of South Carolina Fire Marshall by Governor Henry McMaster. He concluded his presentation by stating that on Sunday, March 19, 2017 he would be presenting a proclamation to a gentleman that would be 95 years old on March 20, 2017.

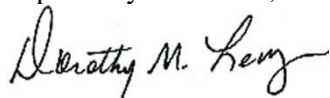
## IX. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson and Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting ended at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

